

Message Text

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20

ACTION DHA-02

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 ORM-02 SCA-01 VO-03 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INSE-00 DEAE-00 SY-05 SSO-00 /034 W

----- 118550

O P 230818Z JUL 76

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1352

INFO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY RANGOON

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF

SUBJECT: INDOCHINESE REFUGEES: BOAT CASES: M.V. AVA

REF: (A) HONG KONG 8629 NOTAL (B) STATE 171439

1. WE ARE NOT PUSHING THE HKG ON THIS BUT WE DO EXPECT THAT A DECISION WILL BE MADE TODAY OR WITHING THE NEXT TWO OR THREE DAYS ON THE POLAD'S PROPOSAL TO THE HKG THAT A MEANS BE FOUND TO PERMIT THE REFUGEES ABOARD THE M.V. AVA TO COME ASHORE SO THAT UNHCR, OTHER CONSULATES, AND OURSELVES WILL BE ABLE TO PROCESS THE REFUGEES FOR RESETTLEMENT (REF A). WHEN THE DECISION IS MADE WE WISH TO BE ABLE TO MOVE QUICKLY TO COMPLETE THE PROCESSING OF THE PERSONS ELIGIBLE UNDER THE EPP. IT IS OBVIOUSLY IMPORTANT TO THE DISPOSTION OF FUTURE CASES OF THIS SORT TO HAVE SOME RAPID POSITIVE ACTION IF THE HKG FINALLY GIVES IN.

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2. AS THE DEPARTMENT IS AWARE INS AND CONGEN OFFICERS

BOARDED THE AVA AT THE DEPARTMENT'S INSTRUCTIONS (REF B)
TO INTERVIEW THE REFUGEES TO DETERMINE IF ANY APPEARED
ELIGIBLE UNDER THE TERMS OF THE EPP PROGRAM. ALTHOUGH NO
COMMITMENT WAS MADE TO HKG AT THAT TIME OR SINCE, WE FEEL THAT
THE EARLY MOVEMENT OF THOSE ELIGIBLE UNDER THE EPP WOULD
HELP THE HKG AND THE UNHCR APPROACH OTHER COUNTRIES TO
TAKE SOME OF THE REMAINDER. FOR THIS WE AGAIN URGE THAT THE
DEPARTMENT SEEK TO ENSURE THE MOST RAPID HANDLING OF THESE
CASES. AT LEAST WE SHOULD LIKE TO KNOW DEPTS. ESTIMATE
OF HOW SOON WE EXPECT CLEARANCES ETC.

3. THE POST ASSUMES THAT ARRANGEMENTS ARE BEING FINALIZED
WITH ICEM TO PERMIT THEM TO ARRANGE REFUGEE TRAVEL EITHER
BY ICEM PAYMENT OR PROMISSARY NOTE.
CROSS

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 23 JUL 1976
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EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

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